STATEMENT TO CONGRESS BY BRUCE ELVING, EDITOR OF FM ATLAS

FMAtlas@aol.com

April 12, 2004

Have you noticed all the FM translator grants lately? My FMedia! newsletter has been full of them. Lately, the FCC has been granting about 20 a day. At that rate, it will be 400 a month, 4800 a year, and up to four years to clear the 12,000 to 13,000 translator backlog.

Frankly, it is taking a lot of time to analyze each of these. And, worst of all, the FCC is granting as many as three in a city for translators to carry the same primary [out-of-town radio station]. Look at Grand Junction, CO, Richmond, IN and Rushville, IN as some of the most flagrant.

See the quote, April, p. 1, col. 2 in *FMedia!* by Dale Bickel of the FCC:

"If the translator application meets the FCC's requirements, we grant it."

And, of course, all these translators mean less opportunity for low power FM in the years to come.

I think action must be taken right away.